parties to identify and locate unclaimed articles.

1961. [Transferred to *the 19th De cember,* 1991]

Demands of Sikkim State

1962. SHRI S. S. AHLUWALIA: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have received a request from the Government of Sikkim for settling some of the long standing demands of the State;

(b) if so, what are the mam demands of Sikkim pending clearance with the Central Government and since when these demands are pending; and

(c) by when Government propose to settle these demands?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI M. M. JACOB): (a) to (c) The main demands of the Government of Sikkim which are received from time to time from them and Central Government's reaction thereto are as below:—

(1) Reservation of seats for people of Nepal origin in the legislative assembly of Sikkim

The reservation of seats in a Legislative Assembly is meant primarily for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes under article 332 of the Constitution. Therefore, the Government have regretted its inability to accede to the request. However, 4 Writ Petitions on the subject are pending, one in the Supreme Court of India and three others in the High Court of Sikkim.

(2) Inclusion of Nepali language in the VIIIth Schedule of the Constitution.

The Government are of the view that inclusion of more languages (including Nepali) in the VIITth Schedule of the Constitution would have other repre-percussions and reactions. However, it would continue to be the endeavour of the Government to develop the cultural and literary heritage of all the languages irrespective of their being included in the VIIIth Schedule of the Constitution.

(3) Settlement of Property claims of Ex-Chogyal of Sikkim.

The Government of India have taken care to see that the ex-chogyal did not face any difficulty and have considered his claim with Sympathy. The ex-chogyal and his son have already been paid considerable amount in cash. Possession of several properties continues to be retained by the heirs of Ex-chogyal.

(4) Inclusion of Sikkim in the North Eastern Council.

The North Eastern Council was constituted for the States of North-Eastern Region which have commonality from the point of view of economic planning and no other unit outside this region could legitimately be included as a member of the Council. It has, therefore, not been possible to include the State of Sikkim in the North Eastern Council.

Arms training to people of weaker sections

1963. SHRI JAGADISH JANI: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have advised some of the State Governments to give arms training to the people of weaker Sections; and

(b) if so, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI M. M. JACOB): (a)